

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Yasuhiko SHIINA et al.

Serial No : Not Yet Assigned (National Stage of PCT/JP2004/014457)

I.A. Filed : September 24, 2004

For : METHOD OF DETECTING OR DIFFERENTIATING
RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS AND METHOD OF DETERMINING
STAGE OF DISEASE OR DEGREE OF DYSFUNCTION WITH
REGARD TO RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop _____
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified patent application on the merits, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the claims as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.